



Casitas Newsletter

Fall 2025

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The General Manager's Corner

Hello:

I am pleased to bring you the Casitas Municipal Water District's Fall newsletter: an update on the District's work to deliver quality service, a more secure water supply, and public recreation opportunities.

Water Supply Status

After two extraordinarily wet rainy seasons, the Ventura River Watershed experienced a very dry rainy season in 2025. Customer water demands increased after a year of very low water demands not seen since 1966. Water supplies remain high with Lake Casitas at 94% full. Continued efficient use of water is still necessary in order to cope with the next drought cycle.

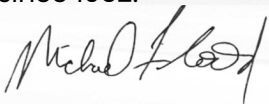
Your District At Work

Casitas is always managing its water supplies and working to make improvements for future droughts through its water security projects. These projects include the Ventura/Santa Barbara Counties Intertie pipeline with construction expected to begin in 2026. This project will allow access to the District's imported water supply from the State Water Project for the first time since it was originally contracted in 1971.

Recreation Area

Casitas continues to improve the facilities at the Lake Casitas Recreation Area. This includes upgrades to existing facilities and also new facilities such as the Pickle Ball Courts, Camping Cabins, and the Casitas Water Adventure Clubhouse! If you haven't been to Lake Casitas recently, now is a great time to plan your next visit.

Thank you for your interest in your local water district, serving our community since 1952.



Regards,
Mike Flood, General Manager



WATER SUPPLY STATUS: Lake Casitas 94% of Capacity

2023 and 2024 brought an extraordinary amount of precipitation that filled Lake Casitas to its full 238,000 acre-foot capacity in April 2024. Casitas' groundwater wells also experienced significant recharge and recovery.

The Ventura River Watershed has cycles of drought conditions that follow very wet years, and the 2025 season was very dry. Continued customer water conservation efforts will be important in making this abundant supply last through the coming years.

For current lake levels and daily updates , visit: www.casitaswater.org/lake-level

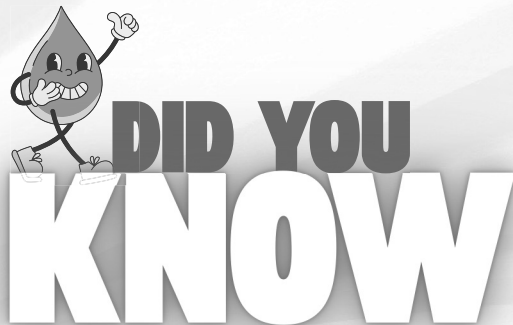
Groundwater Wells: Ojai Groundwater Basin at 75% Full

Casitas operates seven water wells in the Ventura River Watershed, with the majority being in the Ojai Groundwater Basin. Water supply for Casitas' Ojai System contains approximately 80% groundwater, with the balance coming from Lake Casitas.

The record rainfall in 2023 and 2024 added significant supply to the Ojai Basin, with current groundwater levels at 75% of the basin's full capacity after hitting the 99% full mark in April of 2023.

The District's wells in the Ojai Groundwater basin have seen a reduction in pumping levels recently as the dry rainy season caused a reduction in recharge rates.

More information on groundwater levels in the Ojai Groundwater Basin can be found at: www.obgma.com



**Lake Casitas is designed
to hold sufficient water
supply for a 20-year drought?**

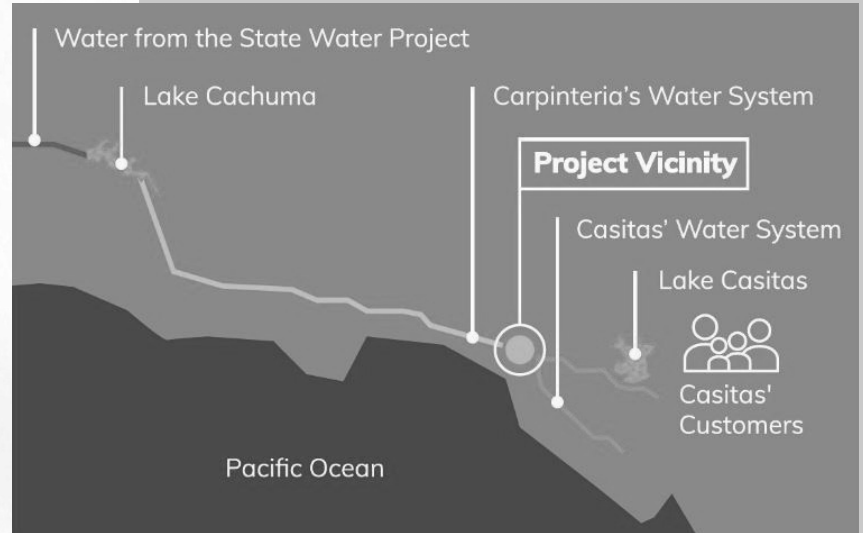
For More Info, visit:
casitaswater.org/casitas-water-security

YOUR DISTRICT AT WORK

The Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie includes an interconnection pipeline to the Carpinteria Valley Water District, two booster pump stations, and improvements to existing pipelines. The project will provide Casitas with access to State Water Project water to improve resiliency in times of emergency.

The project was released for construction bids in September 2025, and Casitas is pre-purchasing major equipment for the construction contractor to install. The Caltrans permit has been received, and permits from the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Counties of Santa Barbara and Ventura are pending.

To date, grants have been awarded, totaling 9.4 million, with additional funding expected from the State Water Resources Control Board. Casitas anticipates starting construction in 2026 for this important emergency water supply and intertie project.



For more information, visit:
www.casitaswater.org/your-district-at-work

Emergency Preparedness

Rincon Pump Plant and Marion Walker Pressure Filtration Plant Generators

Casitas recently completed two emergency generator projects, one at the Marion Walker Pressure Filtration Plant, which serves all Casitas and Ojai customers, and one at the Rincon Pump Plant, which serves customers on the west side of our system and our coastal customers.

These generators are now available to provide electrical power during interruptions or emergencies. A FEMA grant covered 75 percent of the generator at the Rincon Pump Plant.



LAKE CASITAS RECREATION AREA

Recreation Update

As we say goodbye to the summer season and the days grow shorter, we reflect on the past 100 days since our Memorial Day weekend kickoff. Our campsites were filled with families gathered around evening campfires, hikers and walkers exploring the trails, kids riding bikes, anglers casting from the shoreline, pickleball players rallying on the courts, and visitors relaxing as they floated along the lazy river. Whether you joined us for a day or stayed for a week, we hope you enjoyed your time at Lake Casitas—and we look forward to welcoming you back next summer.

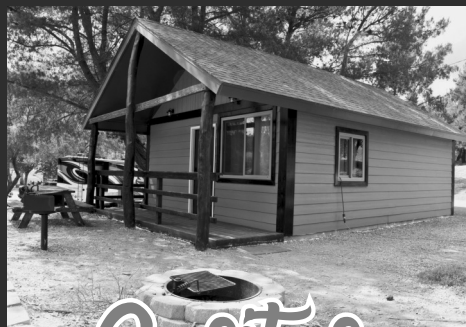
The off-season brings cooler weather and the return of our Snowbird Program, which offers long-term campers the opportunity to settle in and stay for up to six months with just one setup. For more information, please contact our Guest Services team at 805-649-2233.

Off-Season Improvements

With another busy and successful summer behind us, our staff is preparing for the off-season. This time of year allows us to focus on important maintenance and improvements across the Lake Casitas Recreation Area.

- Restroom Improvements: Several restrooms around the lake and campgrounds will undergo upgrades.
- Santa Ana Parking Lot: Thanks to a Boat and Waterways Grant, the lot will receive a fresh slurry seal to extend its life and improve safety.
- Casitas Water Adventure: Enhancements will continue with the completion of the Clubhouse, due to open in October 2025, improvements to the filtration pump room, and new picnic areas.

We appreciate your patience and support as we complete these projects. These improvements ensure that Lake Casitas remains a safe, welcoming, and enjoyable destination for all.



Casitas

LAKESIDE CABINS

For more information, visit:
www.casitaswater.org/recreation



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Ojai Day - Saturday, October 18:

Bring the kids and stop by the Casitas booth to learn where your water comes from, and spin the wheel to win a free prize!

Come Join Us

FOR

The Casitas Water Security & Facility Tour

Saturday, October 25, 2025
Saturday, November 1, 2025
9 AM to 12 PM

Space Is Limited
Reserve Your Spot Today!

Contact Marti Ortiz
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